



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230

Directorate for Engineering
Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems
Program Director for Information Technology and Infrastructure Systems
Employment Opportunity – Dear Colleague Letter

April 19, 2006

Dear Colleague:

The National Science Foundation's Directorate for Engineering (ENG) announces a nationwide search for a Program Director for the **Information Technology and Infrastructure Systems** (ITIS) program within the Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems. Applications will be evaluated as they arrive and until a successful appointment is made. The desired starting date for this appointment is August 2006.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

The Program Director position recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

- **Visiting Scientist Appointment.** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on non-paid leave status from their home institution and appointed to NSF's payroll as Federal employees. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution's contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.
- **Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment.** Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.
- **Temporary Excepted Service Appointment.** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps.

The Information Technology and Infrastructure Systems (ITIS) program creates scientific and engineering knowledge for the intelligent design, construction, protection, operation, renewal, and decommissioning of civil infrastructure systems (CIS). CIS include, transportation, water and sewer, power, gas and liquid fuels, telecommunications, and the built environment. This program promotes broad application of high performance computing and advanced information technologies to product, process, and systems modeling, to performance measurement, and to condition assessment, deterioration, and asset management sciences. This program promotes broad application of sustainability, lean construction, interoperability, and life-cycle principles to the modeling and management of civil infrastructure systems and their interdependencies.

Duties and responsibilities: The Program Director for ITIS directs in the implementation, review, funding, post-award management, and evaluation of the program and contributes to the intellectual integration with other programs supported by the Division. Designs and implements the proposal review and evaluation process for relevant proposals. Selects well qualified individuals to provide objective reviews on proposals either as individuals or as members of a panel. Conducts final review of proposals and evaluations, and recommends acceptance or declination. Manages and monitors on-going grants, contracts, interagency and cooperative agreements to ensure fulfillment of commitments to NSF. Evaluates progress of awards through review and evaluation of reports and publications submitted by awardees and/or meetings at NSF and during site visits. Contributes to the responsibility for establishing goals and objectives, initiating new program thrusts and phasing out old projects. Recommends new or revised policies and plans in scientific, fiscal, and administrative matters to improve the activities and management of the Program.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent experience in civil engineering, construction engineering, construction management, transportation engineering, infrastructure asset management, or allied disciplines. In addition, six or more years of active research in the field, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government is required. Also important are knowledge of the construction, transportation, and infrastructure research communities, and effective communication skills (written and oral) and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs, as well as in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations.

How to apply: Applications may be transmitted electronically to jgarza@nsf.gov. Applications should include a resume and a narrative statement that addresses your background and/or experience related to the ITIS program.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Dr. Jesús M. de la Garza
Chair, ITIS Search Committee
703-292-7791
jgarza@nsf.gov

NSF IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO EMPLOYING A HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION.